

Overview of Composites Structures R&D at Carderock Division

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Code 65

Brief to JTEG Meeting on
“Composite Manufacturing and Repair”
4-6 Nov 2003

- **Who we are**
- **Recent research topics**
 - Material Qualification
 - Advanced Material Processing (Intelligent VARTM, co-infusion)
 - Joint Testing and Analysis
 - Composites Failure Modeling (MCT, DYCOSS)
 - Damage Determination for Defect Assessment
 - Large Structure Collapse Prediction and Testing
- **Summary**

Mission

Research and development, test and evaluation, fleet support, and in-service engineering for surface and undersea vehicle hull, mechanical, and electrical (HM&E) systems and propulsors;
logistics research and development;
and support to the Maritime Administration and the maritime industry



Structures and Composites Department - Mission



Mission:

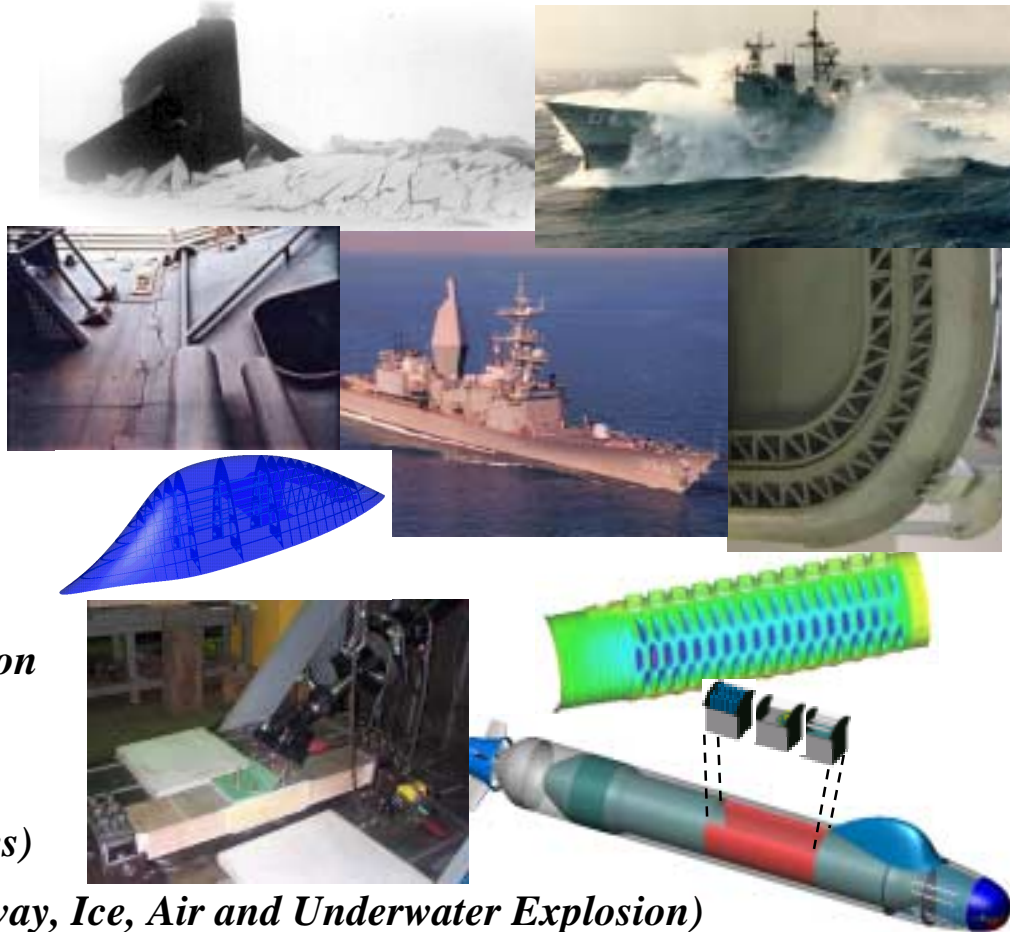
- *Conduct full spectrum RDT&E for Surface Ship and Submarine Structures*
- *Provide Support to the Marine Industry & Related Areas*

Areas of Responsibility:

- *Advanced Concepts / Ship Design*
- *Structural Design / Analysis / Reliability*
- *Composite Structures Technology*
- *Lab / Large Scale / At-Sea Test & Evaluation*

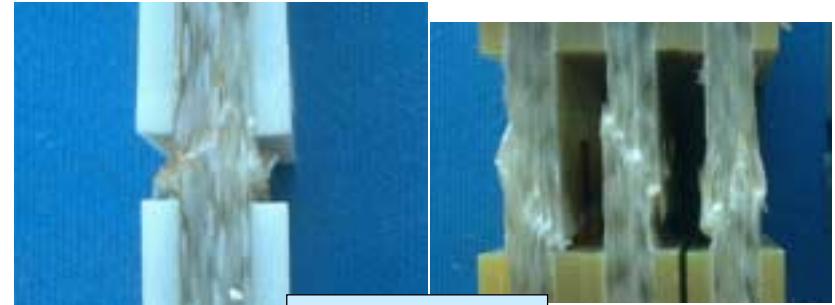
Uniqueness:

- *Expertise in Numerical & Physical Structural Modeling (Metals & Composites)*
- *Historical Experience in Hull Loads (Seaway, Ice, Air and Underwater Explosion)*
- *Established Structural Reliability Bases for Affordable Design*
- *Large marine composite R&D capability (35 scientists, engineers and technicians)*

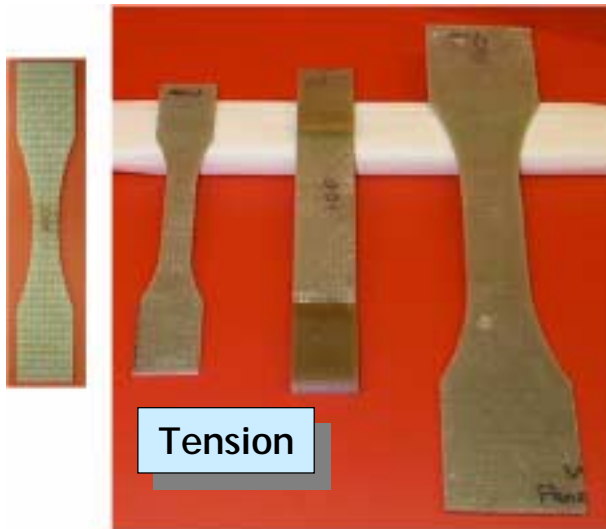


- Develop standard material qualification procedures for the determination of statistically-based composite mechanical property design values for Naval applications.
 - Test methods
 - Material batch requirements
 - Specimen replicate requirements
 - Statistical data analysis methods
 - Environmental conditioning methods (accelerated aging)
- Basis
 - Navy test data and procedures (AEM/S, etc.)
 - ASTM test methods
 - Mil Handbook 17 (DOD/FAA-developed document)

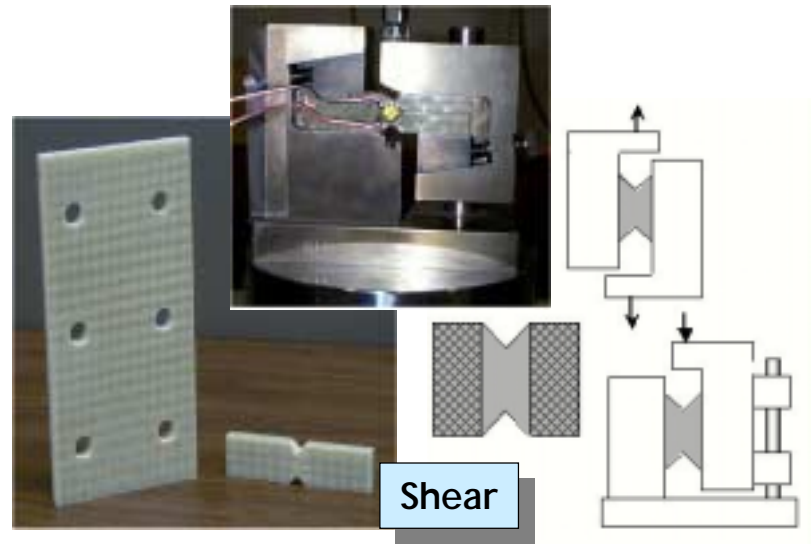
Material Qualification: Aerospace Standards vs. Marine Composites



Compression



Tension



Shear

Material Qualification: Batch to Batch Variability

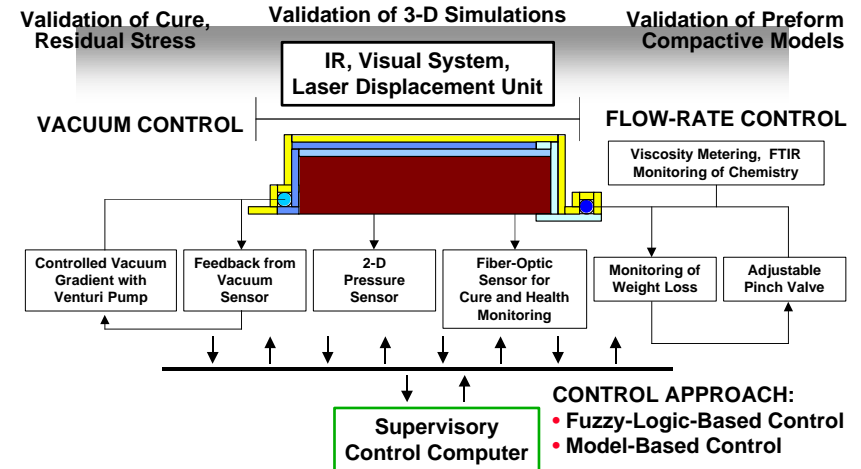


- Recent test results challenge previous views of material equivalency for “standard” Navy laminate material (E-glass woven roving/vinyl ester) with VARTM process
 - Potential sources of batch-to-batch strength variability
 - ◆ Glass lot
 - ◆ Glass manufacturer (sizing)
 - ◆ Resin lot
 - ◆ Catalyst and other cure agents
 - ◆ Ply orientation errors
 - ◆ Uniformity of environmental conditioning
 - ◆ Variation in fiber volume from VARTM process
 - Potential sources of general data scatter (modulus and strength)
 - ◆ Change in test technician (test facility was constant)
 - ◆ Strain gage size (with respect to unit cell size)
 - ◆ Test specimen size (with respect to unit cell size)

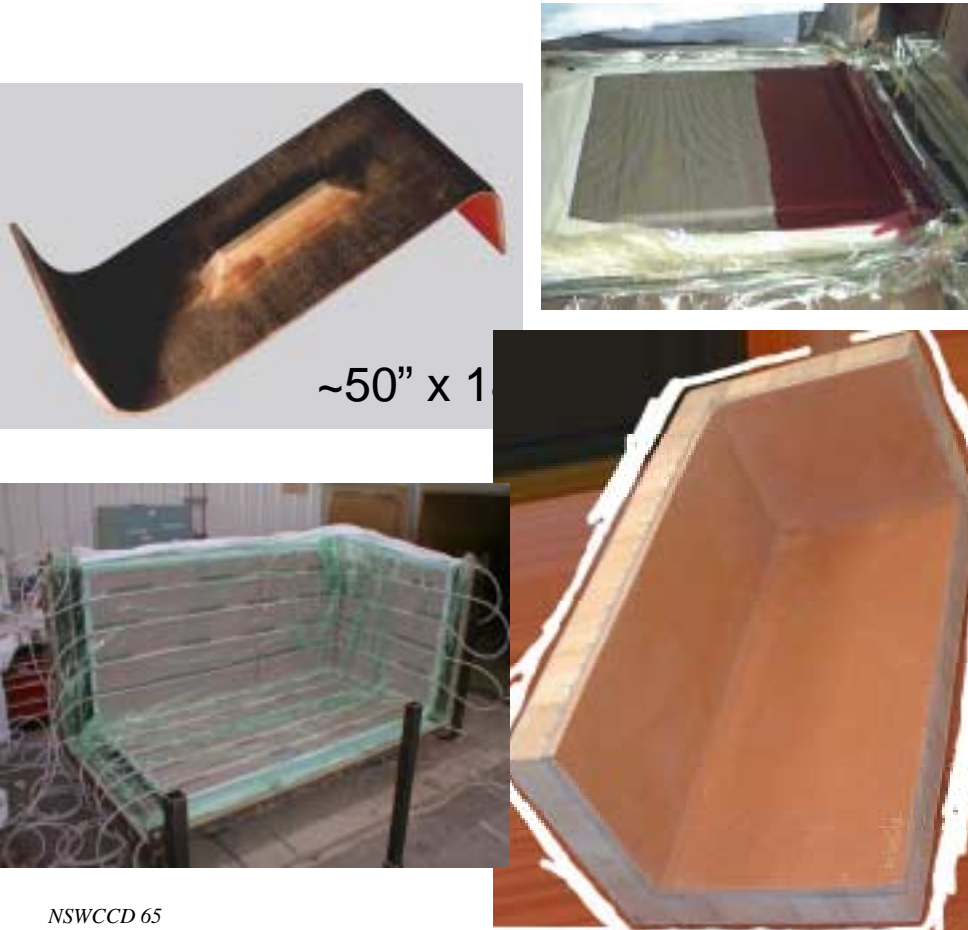
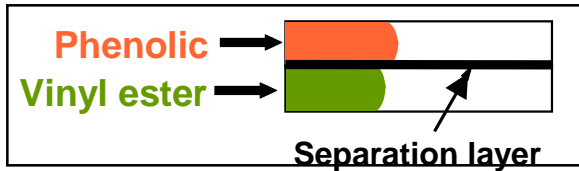
Advanced Material Processing: Intelligent VARTM Processing



ONR National VARTM Testbed

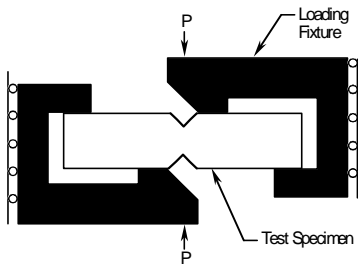


Advanced Material Processing: Co-Injection Resin Transfer Molding (CIRTM)



- Phase I demonstrated process using
 - 510A as structural resin
 - J2027 phenolic as fire barrier resin
 - 24 oz woven roving as reinforcement
- Flat Panel Development
 - Validated Co-infusion process
 - Validated structural properties and durability (SBS & wedge test)
- Cone Calorimetry Fire Performance
- Developed Methodology for Residual Strength Design after Fire
- Demonstrated Complex Fabrication on Z-Stiffener
- Demonstrated 3-Layer CIRTM with Intumescent layer
- Manufactured full scale room corner fire test specimen

Joint Testing and Analysis



Fundamental Property Tests

Basic material data



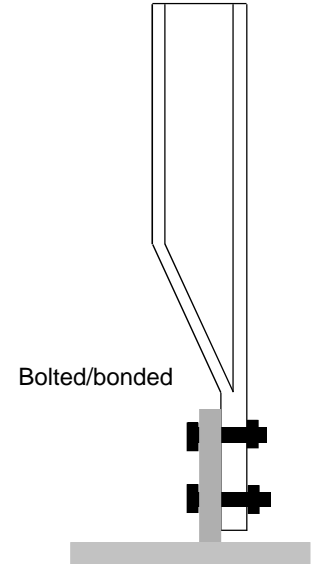
Complex Stress Tests

Joint-related data



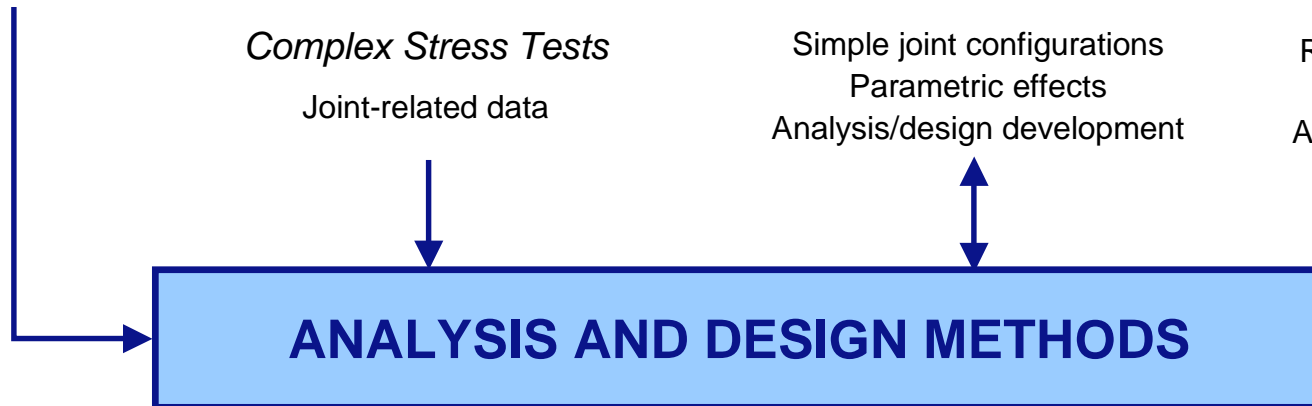
Parametric Tests

Simple joint configurations
Parametric effects
Analysis/design development



Element Tests

Realistic joint details and loads
Analysis/design validation



- **Objective**

Develop design guidelines and verify analysis tools for joints in marine composite applications

- **Joint parametric testing completed**

- Bolted joints

- ◆ Single and double lap configurations
 - ◆ Parameters include d/t , bolt pre-load, edge distance, gap thickness and filler material

- Adhesively bonded joints

- ◆ Single and double lap configurations
 - ◆ Parameters include adherend thickness, adhesive thickness, taper ratio, load angle

- Secondly bonded (integral) joints

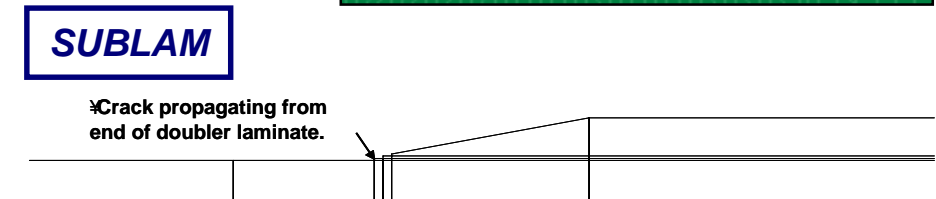
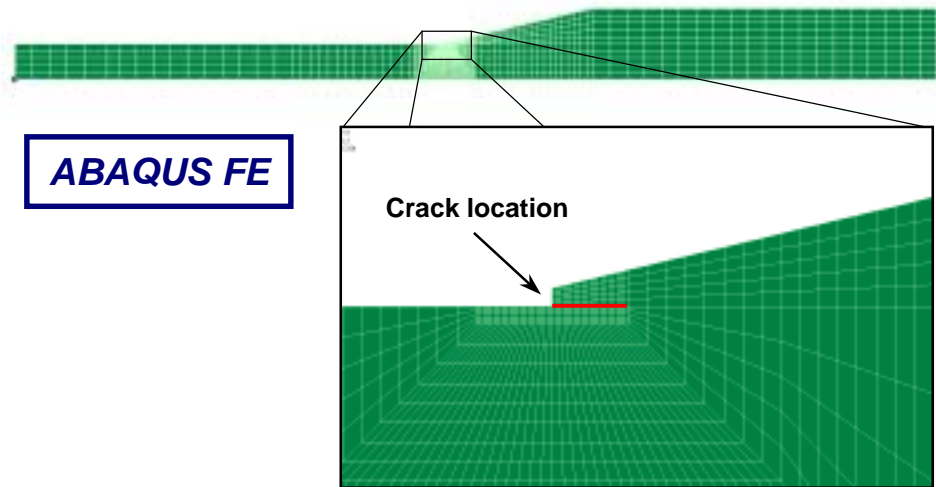
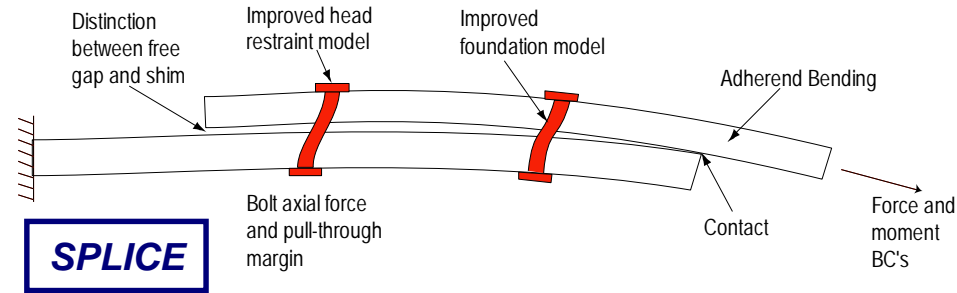
- ◆ Scarf and doubler configurations
 - ◆ Parameters include thickness and taper ratio
 - ◆ Second round of testing planned involving moisture conditioning, fatigue

• Current analytical focus

- SPLICE design tool for bolted joints
 - ◆ Mathematica notebook
 - ◆ Includes bolt flexibility and plate bending
 - ◆ Evaluates all bolt and plate failure modes
- Fracture mechanics analysis for secondarily bonded (integral) joints
 - ◆ Finite element method via virtual crack closure technique
 - ◆ Sublamine analysis code (SUBLAM)

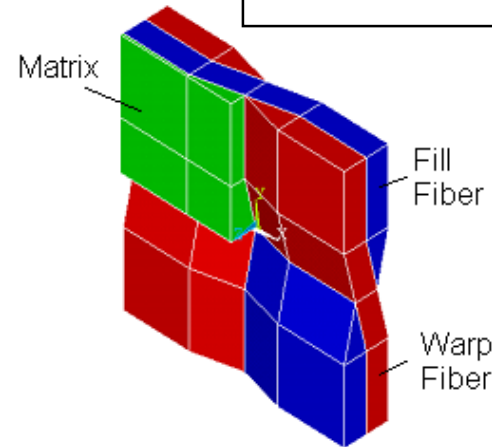
• End products

- Guidance document for joint design
- Guidance document for joint validation

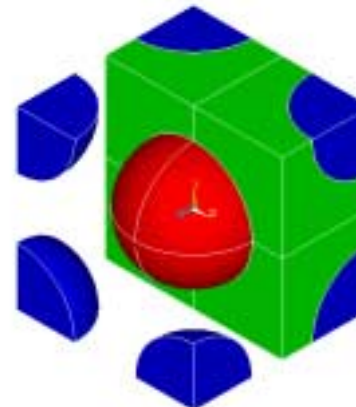


- MCT is a theory for obtaining constituent (fiber and matrix) stresses from composite stresses
- MCT based failure analysis can be applied to composite structures using commercially available ANSYS or ABAQUS
- MCT analysis can be run with almost no time penalty, since constituent properties are determined before hand.
- Uniaxial, woven, and particulate unit cell models are available.

MCT Weave Model

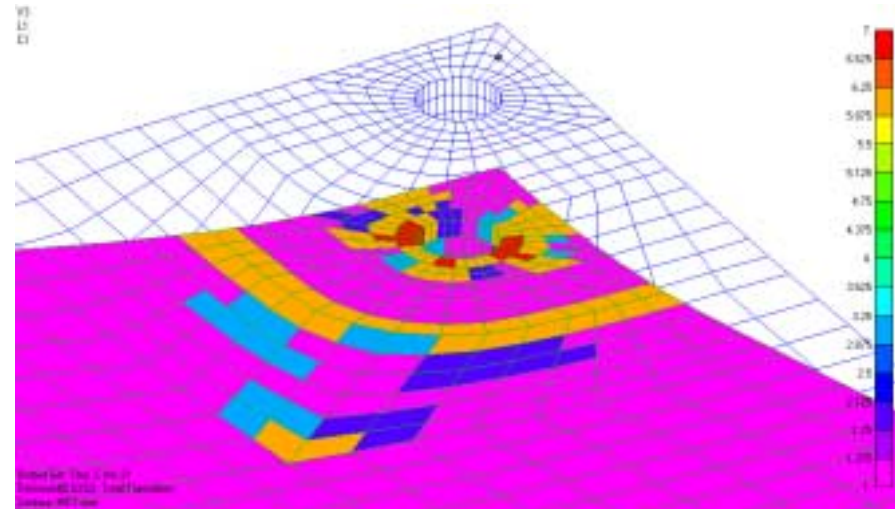


MCT Particulate Model



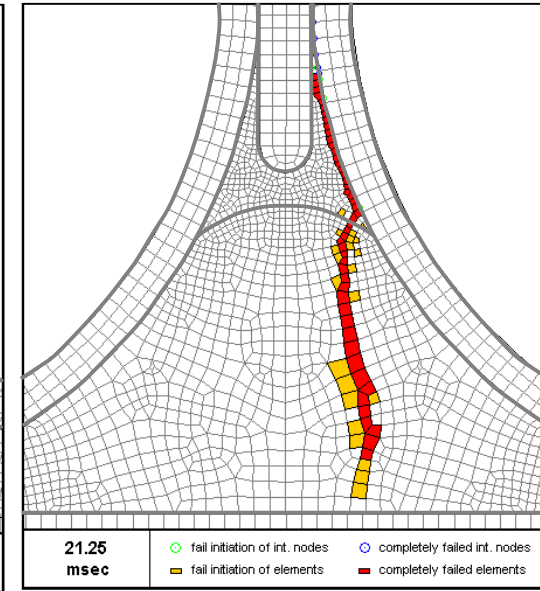
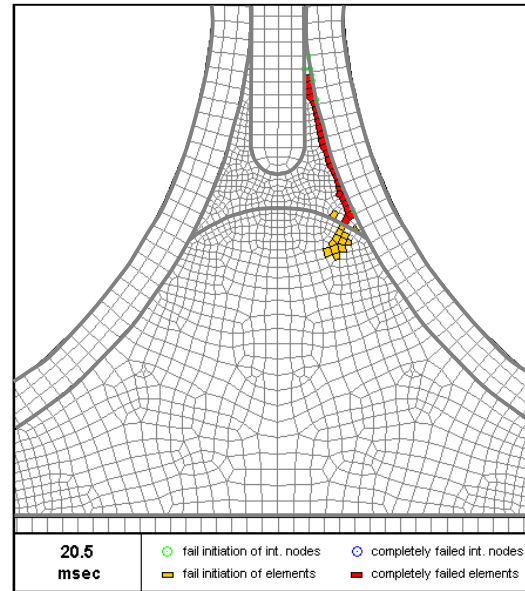
Example: Thick GRP Shell Structure

- Original FEM analysis over-predicted structural strength by 57%.
- Initial MCT based FEM analysis predicted structural strength within 2%.
- MCT analysis also showed the initiation of damage in a region unobservable during testing, underneath the bolted test fixture.



Failure Modeling: Composite Dynamic Failure Prediction Tool

- Dynamic Failure Analysis
 - Discrete Crack Model
 - Delamination
 - Fillet Cracking

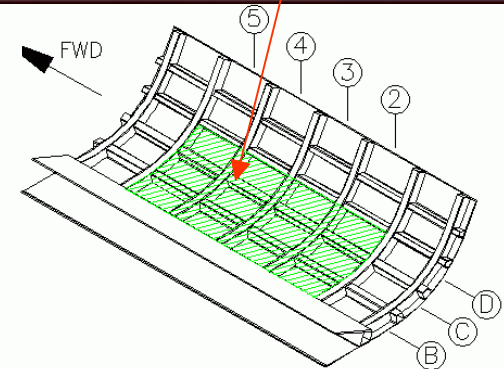
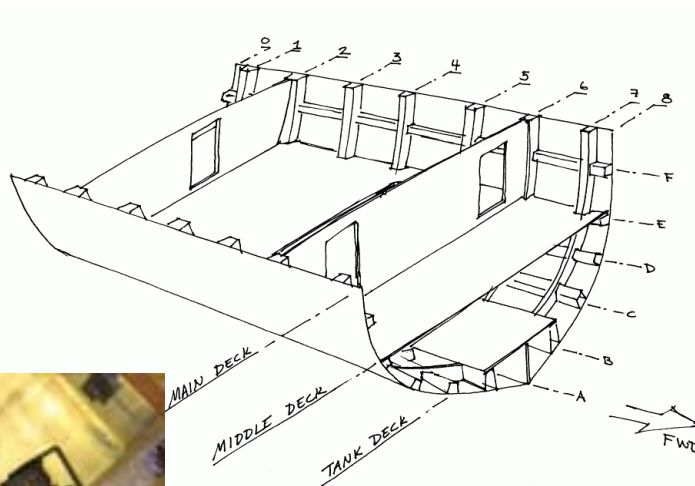


Composite Damage Assessment: Composite Corvette Hull – Shock Test

Ultrasonic Inspection of the hull concentrated on the hat section stiffener tabbing and hull shell between frames 2 and 6 and longitudinal stiffeners B and E (between tank and middle deck).

- This area experiences the highest loads during the initial moments of the shock event.
- Stiffeners tabbing prone to damage under shock loads.
- 100% of the internal hat stiffeners bond to the shell was ultrasonically inspected.
- 63 Data points were recorded and are available for review.

Note: Hat stiffeners were not inspected

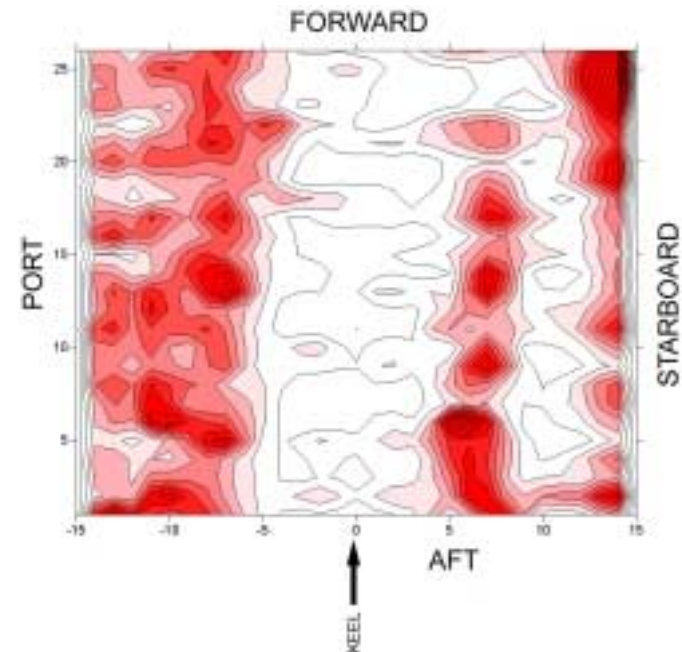
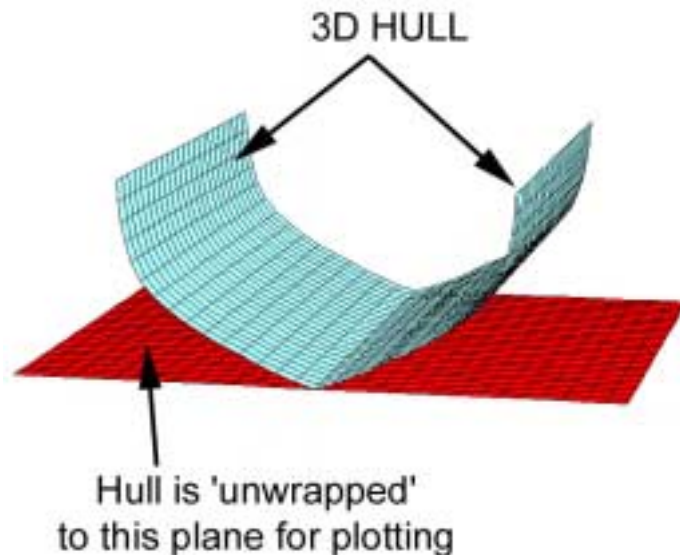


Structural Irregularity and Damage Evaluation Routine

- SIDER is a vibration-based inspection method
 - Vibration waves are totally invasive
 - But not intrusive
- SIDER is designed for the rapid inspection of large structures
 - A single inspection locates areas where there is structural variation/inconsistency. These are places with:
 - ◆ Designed (deliberate) stiffness changes
 - ◆ Manufacturing anomalies
 - ◆ Service-related damage
 - Before/After testing helps identify and locate in-service damage
- Detailed (but time consuming) inspections, e.g., UT and laser shearography, can be focused only on regions identified by SIDER

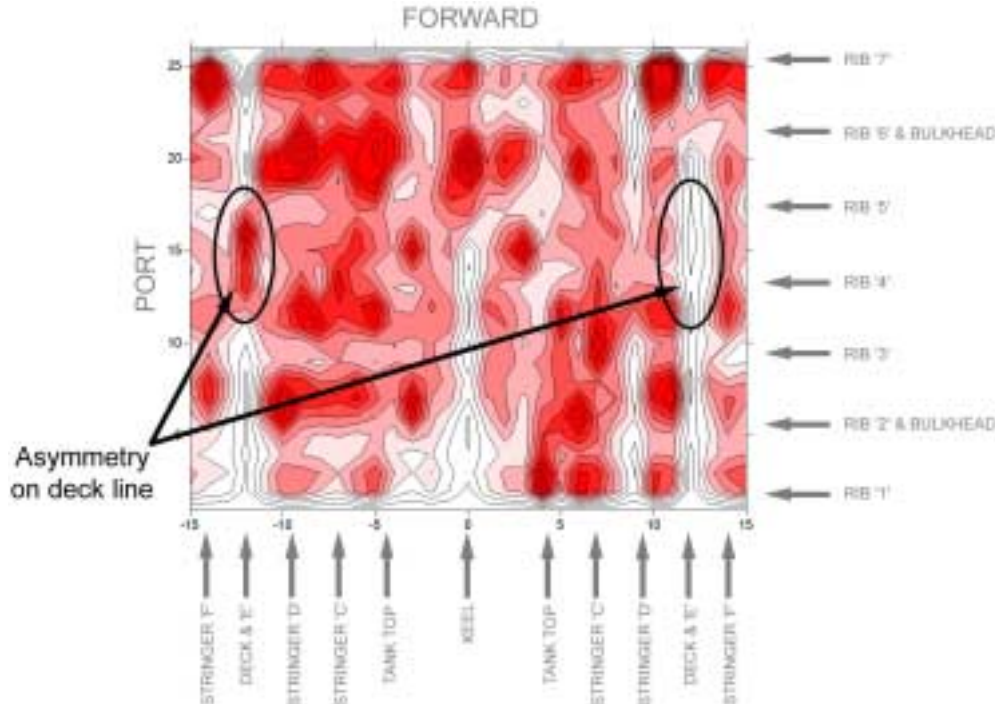
SIDER Inspection of Shock Tested Composite Corvette Hull

- Structural Integrity and Damage Evaluation Routine (SIDER) inspection performed prior and between shock tests
- 5 accelerometers used
 - 2 port side
 - 2 starboard side
 - 1 top deck
- Tuned, instrumented midsize sledge hammer used for excitation at 1022 predetermined points
- 4-1/2 hours to inspect whole structure



Pre-Shock *SIDER* Results

- Single pre-shock *SIDER* located some structural problems
 - Deck line debond
- Looking for changes after shock testing
 - Changes relate to damage
 - Damage can both increase and decrease structural uniformity
 - ◆ Local damage causes more flexibility
 - ◆ Stiffener debond can cause more homogeneity

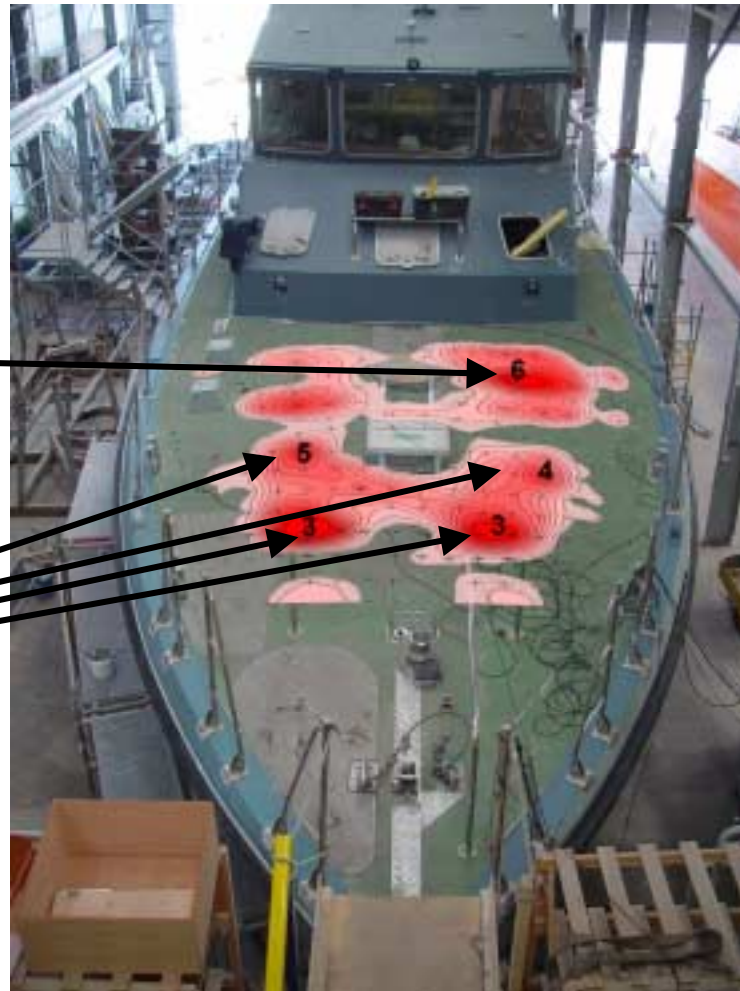


SIDER Results - Port/Starboard Analysis

- **Single** SIDER test of forecastle only
- Located a number of structural features

Structural bulkhead ends

Penetrations (deck prisms, vents)



Composite Structural Collapse: Corvette Hull Bending and Collapse Tests

Hull # 1: LTC-Prepreg

- Very poor quality hull
- Insufficient Joints/Connections
- Warm-up / Calibration Test Specimen



Test completed Aug 2002

Hull # 2: VARTM/Scrimp™

- High quality hull construction
- VARTM Joints/Connections
- Full Validation Test Specimen



Test completed July 2003

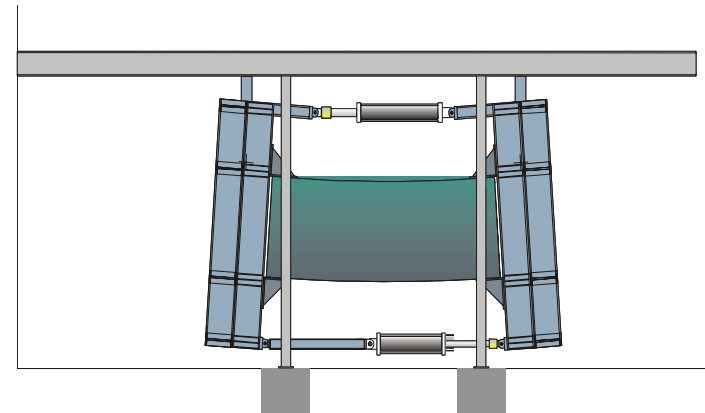
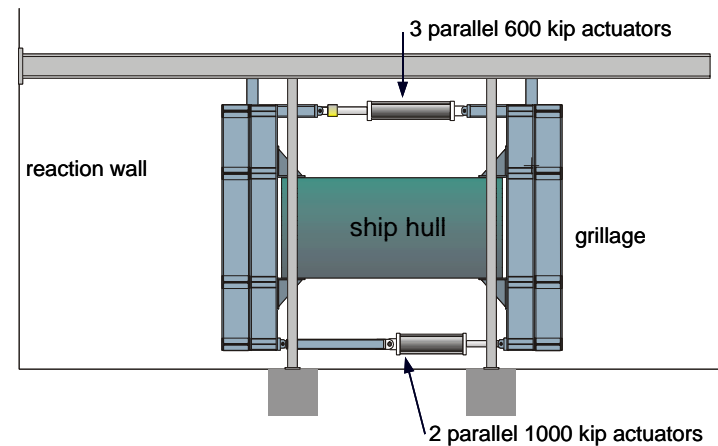
Dimensions: 28' L x 20' W x 10' H, ~ 20,000 Lbs

Composite Structural Collapse: Corvette Hull Bending and Collapse Tests

Objectives

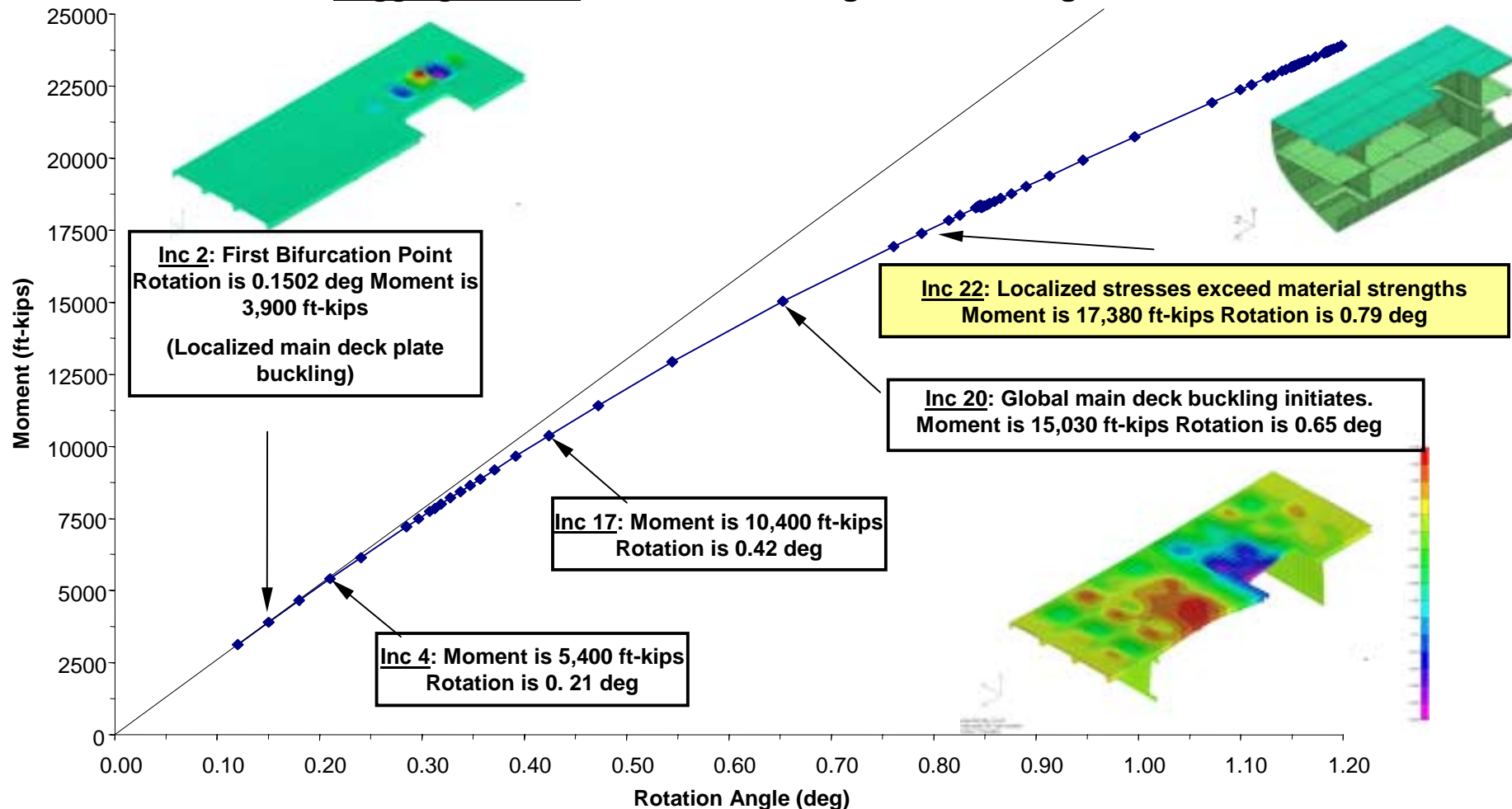
- Design, fabricate and assemble a test fixture for testing 1/2-scale composite ship hull structures
- Conduct elastic hull-girder bending test under hogging and sagging conditions
- Conduct hull ultimate collapse test under sagging mode

Grillage and Attachment Beams (Lehigh University ATLSS)



Composite Structural Collapse: Corvette Hull Buckling Response Predictions

Sagging Moment Versus The Grillage Rotation Angle



- **The Structures and Composites Department of the Carderock Division offers full service composite structures R&D including:**
 - Manufacturing Process Development and Support
 - Material Test Method Development
 - Material Environmental Pre-Conditioning Method Development
 - Structural Design and Analysis
 - Large Component Testing
 - Failure Model Development
 - Structural Damage Prediction
 - Unique Damage Assessment Capabilities
- **Focus is supporting the “wet” Navy including:**
 - Thick Section GRP Composites for Submarine Applications
 - Glass and Carbon Sandwich Structure for Surface Ship
 - Low Cost, High Quality Fabrication Methods